



Founded in 1949

The Newspaper of Imperial College Union

## The Secret of Life, the Universe and everything . . . . .

£9

42

**LAST WEDNESDAY, Mrs Shirley Williams launched Imperial College's Social Democratic Society by giving a lecture on the aims of the recently formed SDP.**

The interest in Mrs Williams' speech was such that it had to be moved from its original venue to the Great Hall to accommodate the large number of students and staff.

Mrs Williams began her speech by stating that the formation of the SDP was a bold experiment. If the experiment failed the consequences for Britain would be, in her opinion, dire. If, however, the experiment succeeded Britain would have a truly representative party in Westminster because no special interest group would be able to control the party. Each member would have an equal vote in the governing of the party.

Both major parties are so wrapped up with their own party dogmas that they are blind to the fact that all they are doing is creating division in the country and ultimately threatening democracy.

The introduction of a system of proportional electoral representation would allow other parties, like the SDP, to be more fairly represented at Westminster and eventually end the two party system.

The only current indication of the SDP's policies are the 'twelve tasks' unveiled by the collective leadership of the party earlier in the year. Mrs Williams took the opportunity to elaborate on the future policies of the SDP.

Britain's lack of recent economic success arose directly from the in-built class antagonism from both sides of industry.

Britain's lack of recent economic success arose directly from the 'in-built class antagonism' from both sides of industry. The SDP support the idea of a mixed economy which encourages the Private Sector but at the same time has a responsible attitude towards the Public Sector. The party also has a responsible attitude towards employment. The party would alleviate the problem by having relevant youth training programmes which are currently totally inadequate. The party also believes that Britain has an international responsibility and therefore would support NATO and the EEC whilst trying to change things from the inside. Previous Governments have been far too callous and shortsighted in their attitude towards the Third World. Her party believes in a Marshall Plan for the Third World countries, allowing them to revitalise their economies. The Social Democrats believe in unity, both nationally and internationally.

Mrs Williams summed up by reiterating the fact that the SDP was a party of all the people emancipated from divisions of class.

There then followed a lively question session covering issues ranging from Bobby Sands to British Aerospace.

22 students and 12 members of staff joined the College Social Democratic Society directly after the lecture.

The SDP has substantial backing in Imperial College already. Lord Flowers, Rector of the College, has lent his support to the party in an advertisement in *The Guardian* at the start of February and Mrs Williams' meeting was chaired by Professor Sutton, Pro-Rector.

The party needs financial support and recommends on its promotional literature a £9 donation.

**THE RCSU ANNUAL DINNER was held last Friday evening in the Sherfield Building. Simon Jones, better known as Arthur Dent of the successful radio and television series *The Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, was the guest speaker.**

He was accompanied by David Learner (the man inside Marvin the Paranoid Android) and special effects expert Jim Francis, who created such diverse items as the robot suit and a radio-controlled head for Zaphod Beeblebrox for the television adaptation.

RCSU Hon Sec, Steve Tyson was shocked on Thursday lunchtime when he received a last minute cancellation from the show's author, Douglas Adams, who had been expected to speak. Fortunately, Simon Jones agreed to replace him at very short notice and gave a confident and amusing speech.

David Learner later donned his Marvin costume and joined in the festivities in the Senior Common Room.

When asked how many people had attended Mr Tyson said "I don't know, I don't stand and count 'em, and it's not up to me to count them either." (Really folks!)

## Election Fever Grips UGM!

**THE FIRST UGM of the term yesterday heard hustings speeches for many posts before the quorum was successfully challenged when the meeting began to discuss motions.**

John Passmore, ICU President took the chair in the absence of Jon Firth. Mr Passmore in his presidential report outlined further his remarks in *Exec News*. Rachel Snee, ICU Deputy President, said that at last something was being done this week about the Southside security system. Liz Lindsay, Hon Sec, spoke extensively about the INCOST Conference over Easter, how successful it had been and how well those involved from IC had done.

Hustings were held for the post of Welfare Officer between Ian Greenwood and R S Pyne. The candidates for PWP were S Goulder, R Morgan, L Burry, S Rodan and P Coll. The Haldane Library Record Buyer was contested by Gordon Baxter and Alan Edwards. Patrick Coll and Caroline Godin stood for the post of FELIX Business Manager. Simon Rodan was ratified as External Affairs Committee Secretary. M Bootey, J Stanley, N Wātough and C Webb were ratified as ULU Reps. The meeting also ratified elections held at the Results UGM last term. T Owen and S Goulder and Miss C Tiller were ratified as members of Union House Committee. The post of Union Publicity Officer is still open.

After the conclusion of the hustings it was announced that the motion on the Brandt Report had been withdrawn. This was greeted with loud cheering. When the first speaker on the Nationality Bill was beginning, the quorum was successfully challenged. There were about one hundred people present at this generally good humoured meeting. The election results were not available at the time of going to press.

## Letters to the Editor



Dear Sir

I was somewhat taken aback to hear the allegations levelled against me by Mr Hayward (FELIX 582). I had, until reading his letter, absolutely no knowledge whatsoever of the motion which I am accused of seconding; to throw Mr Cortazzi in the RP. Indeed, it surprises me that the UGM Chairman allowed such an obviously unconstitutional motion. I can only assume that someone, who obviously holds me in considerable contempt, saw fit to forge my signature to this childish, frivolous motion.

Yours faithfully  
B McCabe

Dear Steve

May I congratulate you on reprinting Colin Palmer's twaddle at the Annual Conference of the Federation of Conservative Students in the last issue of FELIX? Keep up the good work!

I hope in the forthcoming issues of FELIX you will also tell us about the Fascist songs they sang at this Conference (*New Statesman*, April 24 1981, p3). By the way, did Colin Palmer, in his bid for "national Tory leadership" also join in singing these songs while (to use your own phrase) "flying the IC flag in typical style"?

Yours sincerely  
Bharat Bhushan  
DSES PG

### IC Day Nursery JUMBLE SALE

Friday, May 8  
10:00—2:00

Consort Gallery  
come and have fun!

## College Secretary defends IC policy on South African sponsored students on nuclear technology course

**MR JOHN SMITH, CBE, Secretary of Imperial College, reaffirmed the fundamental principles of the College during a debate last Tuesday afternoon.**

The debate centered around a motion "that IC should not assist in developing South Africa's nuclear capability by accepting South Africa-sponsored students on its nuclear technology course".

The debate was opened by Mr Mike Terry, General Secretary of the Anti-Apartheid Movement. He outlined the situation regarding South Africa, how it had made military intervention in many southern African states, how it had been condemned at the United Nations, and how it practiced a crude form of racism which divides on the basis of race and language.

For ten years it had been speculated that South Africa was looking for the ultimate weapon. Events have suggested that South Africa now has such a weapon and would be prepared to use it. This suggestion is not just the exaggerated polemics of the Anti-apartheid Movement, as South Africa is an abnormal society where many people are Nazi sympathisers.

South Africa has its own uranium mines and has a fair amount of technology for creating nuclear fuel. However it still needs more specialists and technology. To that end it takes advantage of courses such as the one at IC. South Africa should be denied this opportunity.

IC should reconsider its position as the risk that it is wrong cannot be afforded.

Mr Smith, outlining the College position, said that students were admitted on grounds of academic merit only. IC only functions as a corporate body within its own sphere of competence, academic matters. Once it went beyond this it would be open to pressure from all quarters. It should be the British Government's decision if students were not to be allowed into the country to study.

The College does not inquire too deeply into each student's financial backing as this would be an invasion of privacy of the individual. The current sponsorship arrangements do have loopholes but IC would be going back on its basic principles if it started allowing special cases.

After many spirited interventions from the audience of nearly forty people, Mike Terry summed up, arguing that IC should be ahead of other colleges in this matter.

The motion was passed by a large majority.

## Fewer overseas students in Britain

APPLICATIONS FROM overseas students for British University places are thirty-five per cent down compared to last year. The Universities Central Council on Admissions (UCCA) figures, released in April, show that 13,292 foreign students have applied for a place next October. Last year the figure was 20,528. Of the 7,236 reduction, more than 5,500 were men.

The drop is reflected in IC student numbers. The number of applications for 1981/2 is not yet available, but 1980/1 figures show a reduction from 994 overseas students to 771, of which undergraduate numbers are down ten per cent, research students down twenty-five per cent and advanced courses thirty-five per cent down.

This shortfall follows the enormous increases in overseas students' fees in recent years. However despite the fears and warnings from student unions, lecturers and the Committee of Vice-Chancellors, CVCP, the Government has continued the full-cost fees policy. As widely predicted, this policy has now led to not only a loss of revenue but also damage to overseas relations. At the Association of Commonwealth Universities meeting in Hong Kong last month, Britain's decision to charge EEC students the same tuition fee as home students brought a furious response.

UCCA figures also show a four per cent increase in home student application, which gives an overall one per cent reduction.

## Small Ads

●**Yamaha RD200**, T reg, only 2,700 miles, front disk brake, rack and top box. Full front fairing can be included. £400 ono. Contact Beth, int 3605 or 3673 (days) or 589-9217 (eves).

●**Ford Anglia Deluxe**, 1964, good runner, good body, taxed and tested until mid-June, minor problems, hence £65 for quick sale. Contact Paul Jolliffe, Mech Eng 2.

●**Ladies Bike**, £60ono, 3-speed, with basket. See L Carver, Physics 3 or ring 748-6149 ext 218.

●**Develop your breasts** with Hexham's amazing miracle stew. Expand the parts Mooney's stews never get to reach. Contact M H, Chem 1.

●**Wanted:** Large framed rucksack. Please contact Hazel Cheesbrough, Life Sci 1.

●**Write now** for Huw's amazing crockery filing system. Contact Welsh Whiteman, Aero 3.

●**Anyone with information** regarding theft of spares and tools from boot of blue Morris Minor, near Jez Garage, on Wednesday, April 29, please contact Martin Hilder, c/o Guilds Union Office.

●**America:** It's still not too late to apply for the BUNAC work and travel scheme in USA this summer. More details from Green Committee Room, at the top of the Union Building, on Friday lunch-times and today in the JCR.

●**Best wishes** for exams and fondest memories to all those who know me, especially Mining House 1977-79. Love Y-Kheng Chan, Malaysia.

●**Sailing Club Annual Dinner** will be held in the Bistro Valerio. Tickets from committee members, about £6.50.

●**Flat Wanted:** Is anyone giving up a flat within cycling distance of IC at the end of June? If so please contact Sarah, int 2345 or Julia 2410 or 584-6969.

●**England vs Scotland** football ticket(s) wanted. Will pay good price(s). Phone Robert 955-5016 (6-9pm).

●**Free shoe polishing.** Beit Quad, 1pm.

●**Free tickets** for BBC Radio's *Radio-Active* — an Oxford University's version of Cambridge University's 'Footlights' on Saturday, May 16, available from Jen in the Union Office.

## Fire in Botany

THE FIRE BRIGADE were called to the Botany department in the early hours of last Sunday morning to investigate copious smoke and fumes that had been brought to the attention of Beit Security. The smoke was discovered at 12:45am in Room G8 on the ground floor of the Botany department, but it was not thought necessary to evacuate Beit Hall. The fireman, equipped with breathing apparatus, traced the fumes to a smouldering oven which was quickly dealt with with minimal damage caused.

## Fire Engine in Brighton

THE RCS INVIOLE mascot, JEZ, a 1916 Dennis fire engine, took part in the London to Brighton Historic Commercial Vehicle Club Run last Sunday. Jez left, along with over 200 other vehicles at 7:15am to cross the finish line seventh at 10:34pm.

Paul Johnson (RCSU VP) told FELIX that it had rained "excessively" on the way back and Rich Archer had worn a "flat cap".

In order to return in time for the Union Bar, Jez took to the motorway on its return.

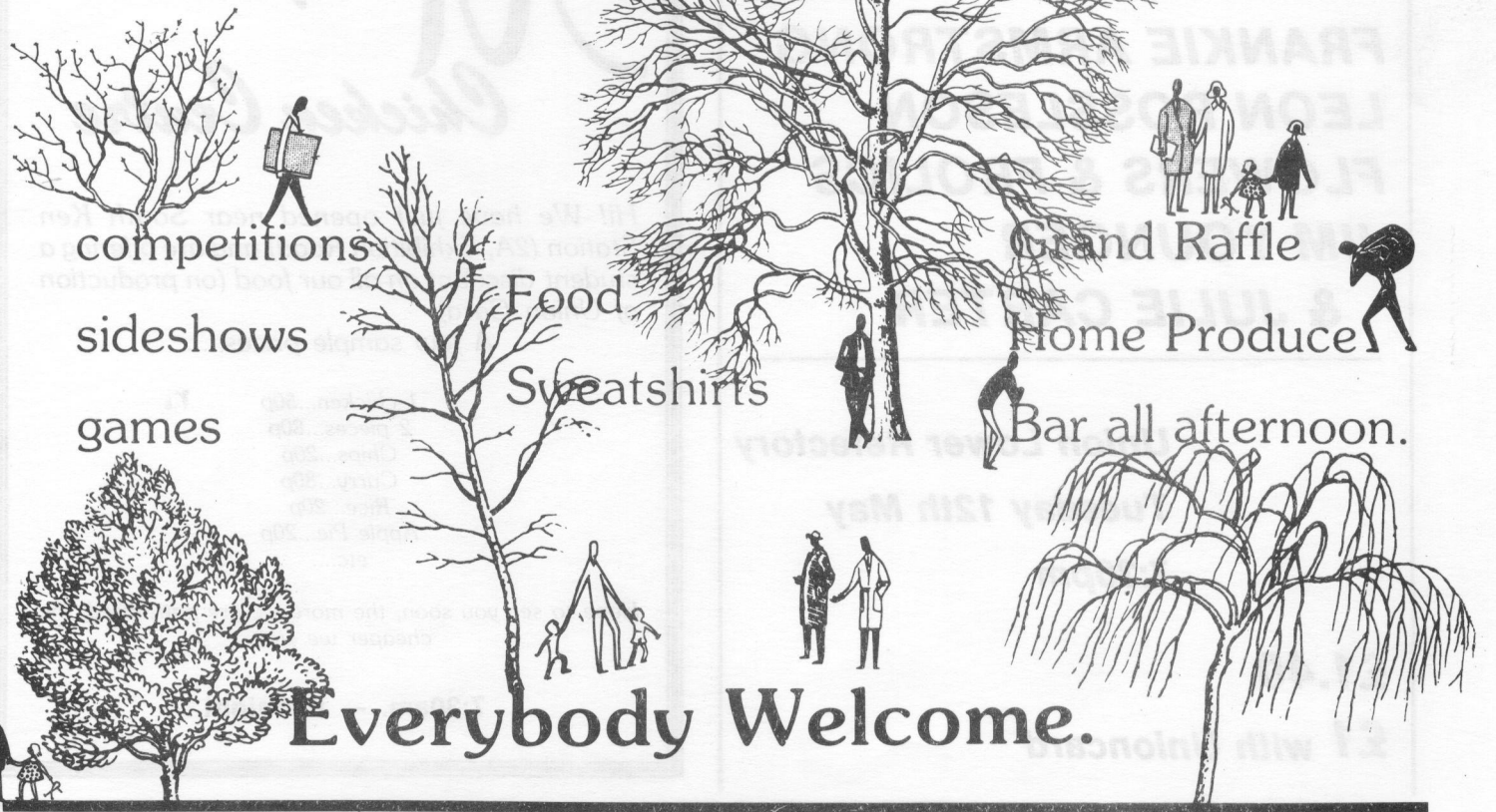
# Imperial Rag

Queen's Lawn  
Sat 16th May  
2—5pm



Queen's Tower open all afternoon

# RAG FÊTE



competitions

sideshow

games

Food

Sweatshirts

Grand Raffle

Home Produce

Bar all afternoon.

Everybody Welcome.

# Find out about Marketing Management

## and see if it would suit you...

### Marketing Manager

a total business role in a dynamic consumer industry  
OXFORD

c.£20,000 p.a. + car  
Our client is a multi-million pound international company. Recent changes have resulted in the need to hire a Marketing Manager to join the board.

The successful candidate will be given the challenging opportunity of "running his/her own show" and will therefore need to demonstrate a high degree of analytical and creative thinking, combined with an approach to business geared up to making things happen.

This position will therefore attract honours graduates with business flair and a strong record of consistent achievement.

The salary is backed by a company car and other important benefits. Career prospects are excellent and there is plenty of scope to move upwards, not only in marketing but also in general management.

**SMITH  
HESLOP &  
ARMSTRONG, LTD**

**The demands of marketing management are high, but so are the rewards - in job satisfaction and material terms. You can find out about the challenge of marketing management by spending five days on Procter & Gamble's Marketing Vacation Course.**

We are one of the most successful manufacturers of fast moving consumer

goods in the world and acknowledged leaders in the marketing management field. The UK Company markets such household names as Ariel, Fairy Liquid, Head & Shoulders, Crest, Flash, Daz and Camay.

Between 21st and 25th September, we will be running an informal, but intensive, marketing management course for a group of final year undergraduates at our Head Office.

Full accommodation and all expenses will be paid. During the Course you will actively participate in business projects ranging from product development and consumer research to television advertising and in-store promotion. They will give you a real feel of the challenge, intellectual stimulation and enjoyment of marketing management, and insight into the broad range of activities involved. You will also have a chance to meet some of the wide variety of people with whom a marketing manager works.

If you are interested in learning about Marketing Management, you should apply as soon as possible.

Please ring John Harper, reversing the charges on Newcastle upon Tyne 857141, or write to him c/o Brand Promotion Division, Procter & Gamble Limited, P.O. Box 1EE, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1EE. The closing date for applications is 18th May, 1981.

**Interviews with applicants will be held at the University before the end of term.**



**ANWAR DITTA BENEFIT CONCERT**

**FRANKIE ARMSTRONG  
LEON ROSSLESON  
FLOWERS & FROLICS  
JIM YOUNGER  
& JULIE CARTER**

**Union Lower Refectory  
Tuesday 12th May  
7:30pm**

**£1.40**

**£1 with Unioncard**

# Maryland Chicken Centre

Hi! We have just opened near South Ken Station (2A, Exhibition Road) and are offering a student discount on all our food (on production of Union Card).

A few sample prices....

1 chicken...50p  
2 pieces...80p  
Chips...20p  
Curry...80p  
Rice...20p  
Apple Pie...20p  
etc....

Hope to see you soon, the more we are patronised, the cheaper we stay.

**7:30am. — midnight**

## C&G Motor Club

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the C&G Motor Club is to be held on Friday, May 8 in Mech Eng 751 at 7:00pm. Several posts are being contested so if you want to vote for next year's committee then come along. Later in the evening there will be a Table Top Rally and beer for those who are interested.

On Thursday, May 14 the Club will be holding its Annual Dinner with guest speaker Alain de Cadenet. Tickets are £7.50 available from the C&G Union Office. Full details are posted on the Club Noticeboard.

Finally, should anyone be interested in helping ensure that the Club wins THE Treasure Hunt of the Year, the Miglia Quatro, then please get in touch with one of the committee. This takes place on the night of Saturday, May 9 in the City of London. All support will be gratefully accepted.

### Ed's Note

Everyone knows that THE Treasure Hunt of the year is, of course, the FELIX Motor Rally, due to be held on Sunday, June 21.



**Saturday, May 9**  
Seaside Trip  
**Tuesday, May 12**  
Handover UGM  
Joint Gen Comm  
**Saturday, May 16**  
Rag Fete

Tickets for the seaside trip are £1 each from Ruth. It will be to a mystery destination — i.e. we still haven't decided where we're going. The Handover UGM will be held at the Albert Memorial at 12:45pm or in Mech Eng 342 if it's raining. It will include colours and various silly awards, and a trouserless exec boat race.

Anyone is welcome to come to the Gen Comm. We're hoping to get it over quite quickly and then have food, drink and games, including wine draughts. Names to Sara beforehand, please, if you want to go.

It is hoped to "hit" the Rector at the Rag Fete, but to do so we need contributions. Whoever makes the biggest contribution can make the hit. If you have any ideas for stalls please see Ruth. Help would be very much appreciated, but if you can't help out, please come to the Fete and spend lots of money.

Cheers, Andy

### Flats for Next Session

Flats for 4, 6, 7 and 8,  
single and double bedsits.

Areas: Mainly Fulham, Earls Court, S Ken.

Rent: Around £20 per person.

For further details contact: Student Services,  
Ground Floor, 15 Princes Gardens.

IC and Kensington International Students

### BARN DANCE

with THE JUMBLIES (and disco)

8:00pm, Saturday, May 9, JCR

Admission 75p.

### IC Open Day

ICU has agreed to place the JCR at the disposal of College on

**Tues, Wednes, and Thurs morning**  
**12, 13 and 14 May**

to stage the exhibition for  
**MEET IMPERIAL COLLEGE '81**

Students are requested *not* to use the JCR during this period. Full facilities are available in the Main Dining Hall. The Quiet Room (002) is also available for students' use.

## SDP

This royal throne of kings, this scepter'd isle,  
This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,  
This other Eden, demi-paradise,  
This fortress built by Nature for Himself,  
This happy breed of men, this little world,  
This precious stone set in the silver sea,  
Which serves it in the office of a wall,  
Or as a moat defensive to a house,  
Against the envy of less happier lands.  
This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England.

When Shakespeare put these words into the mouth of the dying John of Gaunt, he was expressing a view of England, and indeed of the whole of this island, to which the majority of people then, in the intervening years and now have subscribed. Namely that no matter what government is in office there is for the overwhelming mass of people the idea that one must put our country before any narrow ideological considerations. This is evinced by the fact that there never has been in this country any official nationalistic doctrine; we do not have to tell ourselves, unlike the Germans or the Poles, how much we love our country. We do, and therefore there is no need to stridently tell the world that we do.

This is the reason why the political ideologies which have dominated the thought of this century have not made any noticeable impression on our country. The National Union of Fascists, and its successor the National Front did not and have not gained any popular influence. Similarly we have the smallest Communist Party in Western Europe.

Since all these parties are extreme it became obvious to ideologues on both sides that they could not seize power in this country by using

these parties. Their solution therefore has been in the past couple of decades to gain control of the two main political parties in this country. By doing this their views received the respectability of tradition. More importantly since politics is not a closely followed spectator sport in this country, people will, out of habit, continue to vote for the traditional parties without perceiving that they are bringing ruin upon this country.

Thus the Labour Party has moved to the left and is now in the hands of the left. The Conservative Party has moved to the right and is now in their hands. There is no sight more frightening than being at a political meeting of either party where a person is expressing a moderate view and is howled at by the "purists" of that party for being an enemy of the party. This kind of attitude can only logically lead to a McCarthy era in America or a Stalinist era in Russia. Once one gets on the slide of intolerance, violence, arbitrary violence, is the only outcome.

We have not yet, fortunately reached that stage, though we are getting uncomfortably close to it. There is a solution, which might work. Namely the formation of a Centre party. It doesn't matter whether the Social Democratic Party will form the next government or not. What does matter is that it holds a balance of power in the next parliament so that neither the New Labour Party, nor the New Conservative Party can put through their extreme policies and ruin this country.

If you love this country, as I do, then join the SDP, and work for them. We can't promise to make things better, but at least we can ensure that our country does not become the plaything of ideologues who would turn it into a wasteland.

Frank James

## Bookshop News

Picture the scene, our illustrious tutor, sitting, meditating, wondering, will it ever appear? Suddenly in a plain brown wrapper, on approval, the book arrives. This is the answer to all his prayers, his years of begging for it. THE book has now, at last, been published.

The fatal day at last, March 15, his students sit in anticipation, will this be the year of the book? Slowly, oh so slowly our illustrious tutor lifts from its plain brown wrapper THE book. This is the one! The eager hordes swoop down on their friendly Bookshop Manager, but, alas, he has not seen or heard of THE book. But, do not despair, he will phone the publisher.

*Bookshop Manager to Sales Director:* I understand that THE book is to be published today, March 15.

*SD to BM:* Yes, but our stock hasn't arrived.

*BM to SD:* But you sent a copy to our illustrious tutor and he has recommended it to his students.

*SD to BM:* That's his problem. We must stick to publication date.

*BM to SD:* But that is today, and we have not received copies.

*SD to BM:* Well, you can't have it if we haven't got it even if it is published today.

*BM to SD (in desperation):* Can I speak to the Managing Director?

*SD to BM:* Sorry, he has gone for an early lunch and will not be back today.

*BM to SD:* Is there any hope of getting this book?

*SD to BM:* Though official publication day is today, March 15, you may not get copies until the end of March — beginning of April; or end of April — beginning of May. Strictly off the record, we do believe they are suspended above dock, at Felixstowe, due to an industrial dispute involving crane drivers.

*End of Story.*

**New Title In Stock:** *Biochemistry* by Lubert Stryer, published by W H Freeman, £9.95. This title was originally due out on March 15, but actually arrived April 29. But you have probably heard the story.

Don't forget the Book Sale is still on!

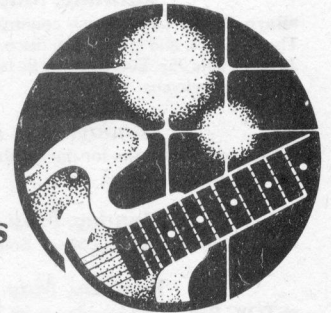
## Reviews

### Records

Vardis

The  
World's

Insane

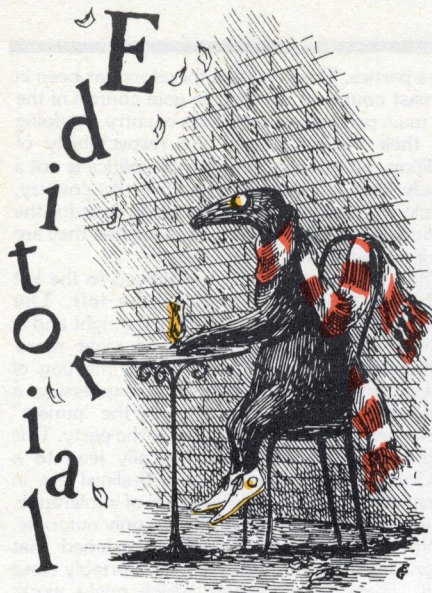


Riffs as predictable as rush hour tailbacks in the Blackwall Tunnel. Just about as exciting, too. In fact, the effect on the ears is pretty similar. The drone of bagpipes (*Police Patrol*), chug-a-lug beat (*Routemaster Bus?*), pain in the head (*Carbon Monoxide!*). No need for lyric sheets here — the words are all in the titles, the noise is all in the head, the songs are all in the mind. The world's insane.

The inability to harmonise (does the bass player actually possess a guitar? The inspired cover photograph shows that he has at least handled one), the demented vocals, are all rather wasted in stereo. Come to think of it, I remember the days when the Blackwall Tunnel was only in mono. Somehow, the effect has never been the same since it went stereo. The conflicting juggernaut thrashing and heavenly bedlam of Fodens and ERFs is so much more satisfying through only one cruddy speaker.

I prefer the Woolwich Ferry myself. But then I'm with it . . . . . (Geddit?).

John Miller



**Pseudonymous Letter**

I know the real identity of the student who signed a letter 'Ndabiningi Sithole, Chem 1' and if no apology is received by next Wednesday, strong action will be taken in the next issue.

**Wellsoc**

There will be another meeting TODAY at 1:00pm in the FELIX Office. During the meeting next year's officers will be discussed.

**Boredom**

Third term blues. YAWN.

**Thanks to . . . . .**

Dave, Martin, Patrick, Steve, Colin, Tim, Phil, Ian and Maz.

**Honours List**

Four people did all the Easter puzzles: Neill Cooper, Atmospheric Physics PG, Roland Marslin, Physics 3, Richard Tate, DoC RA, and Martin Taylor, DoC PG. Of these, **Richard Tate** was randomly selected as the winner, and he gets a £10 voucher, redeemable at Mend-a-Bike, and £2 cash. In addition, Richard won the individual prize for 'Chess of Draws' which carries another £2. Neill won the £2 prize for 'Playfair Square', and Roland won JAIT's Crossnumber. 'Eggheads' was won by Simon Nuttall, Physics 1. And last week's prize goes to C C Pantelides. Cheques will be available in the FELIX Office on Monday afternoon. Congratulations to all the prizewinners, and everyone else who entered.

**Other News**

Many of my solvers are fed up with 'musical' puzzles, and I'm certainly getting fed up with setting them. So although this week's puzzle isn't based on a musical theme, do please note that IC Orchestra have given two free tickets as a bonus prize to plug their concert next Friday. And do go to the concert; if they get a full house, we may not have to suffer posters of such a nauseous hue around college in future.

Is anyone prepared to help with my takeover bid for the back page next week? Steve's editorials are getting scrawnier every week.

And so to the solutions of the Easter puzzles...

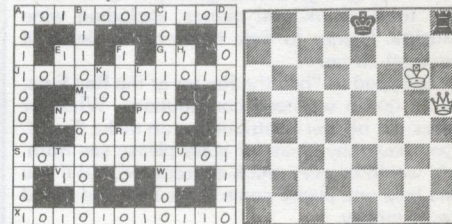
**Playfair Square WATCHSPRING**

**Chess of Draws**

The original position was as shown in the diagram. Blanche expected the machine to castle, allowing 2. Q-R7 mate. Instead the machine played the (rather more sound) move R-XQ which Blanche followed with 2. K-XR.

As Grey Spider points out, the interesting thing about this puzzle is not that the solution is difficult to find, nor that it is particularly elegant or ingenious, but that it is *unique*.

Apologies for the title of this puzzle. Steve told me it was witty, and at 6:30am I believed him.



**Eggheads**

49. Although this puzzle is nowhere near as difficult as many people made it out to be, explaining the solution in full would be unnecessarily tedious. So I shall outline the basic ideas, and if you're not satisfied with that, write.

As I walk down the corridor the lecturers' disciplines (pure or applied) must rotate in cycles of six ...PPPPAAAPPP... The problem is to find where this sequence is broken at the two ends of the corridor, bearing in mind that the first man I questioned must have given a consistent answer about the man at the opposite end.

Now, investigate all six possibilities for the disciplines of the last three men I questioned. If all three are of the same discipline (PPP or AAA) then the first man's answer can only be consistent if the number of lecturers is of the form 6n, 6n+1 or 6n+2. If two of the three are of one discipline, and the third is of the other, then if the odd one has an office at the end of the corridor, the total number of lecturers is 6n, 6n-1 or 6n-2, and if the odd one has an office two from the end, the number must be 6n, 6n+1 or 6n-1. (The odd one cannot have an office one from the end of the corridor, because this would violate the 'cycle of six' rule.)

Now the only possibilities for the total number are 49, 56, 63, 70 and 77.

63 is of the form 6n+3 and so is impossible. So the lecturer who said '63' is applied.

56 is of the form 6n+2 which is only possible if all of the last three lecturers are of the same discipline. So we eliminate 56.

Now if the third man lied, there are 70 (=6n-2) or 77 (=6n-1) lecturers in total. But this means there must be at least one truth-teller among the final three, which contradicts our assumption he lied.

Thus he told the truth, and there are 49 lecturers.



I know of a lecturer in social sciences who, when he has an excess of marking to do, will stand at the top of a flight of stairs and fling an armful of essays towards the bottom. Those which actually reach the bottom are presumed heavier, therefore longer, therefore more thorough; he awards each of these a B. Those which land on the stairs are given a C, D or E according to how far they travel.

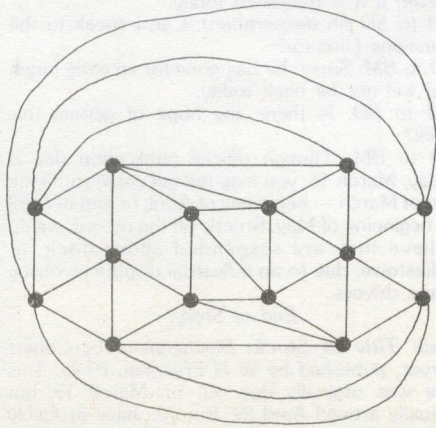
At Primelia College (that bastion of technology recently satirised in the New Scientist) the logic professor has an equally bizarre system of marking for the annual essay he sets on 'The Relevance of Logic to Mushroom Farming in the Outer Hebrides.' To start with, he rejects most (but never all) of the hundred-odd essays as being too awful to merit a mark at all. He then gives each of the remaining papers a mark from zero to ten.

This may not seem so bizarre, until I tell you that the professor makes sure that the first paper he marks is given the same number of points as the number of papers he gives zero to. (Got that?) Likewise, the second paper he marks gets the same number of points as the number of papers he gives one point to. And the third paper gets the same number of points as the number of papers which get just two points, and so on, right to the bottom of the pile of papers.

Naturally it would offend the professor's pride in the elegance of his scheme if he ever graded a pile of papers with the same marks he had used before. How many years can the professor's marking scheme last before he is forced to repeat himself?

*Solutions, comments, criticisms to me c/o FELIX Office, please. There will be a prize of £5 (donated by Mend-a-Bike) and two tickets to the I.C. Orchestra concert next Friday for the correct solution randomly selected at 1:00pm next Wednesday.*

**Last Week's Solution 14 Houses.**



**What's On**

**Friday, May 8**

- IC Oman Expedition presents *Lunchtime in Arabia* - a slide show and commentary given by members of IC Oman Expedition just back from their tour of the Middle East, 12:30pm, Sutton Lecture Theatre, Level 2, Geology.
- Day Nursery Jumble Sale, 10:00am-2:00pm, Consort Gallery.
- Christian Union Meeting with the theme *How Big Is Your God?* and Fellowship, 6:00-6:30pm, Music Room, 53 Princes Gate.
- IC Chinese Soc Disco, 9:00pm, JCR. 50p on the door. SU cards required.

**Saturday, May 9**

- Barn Dance (and English country dancing) featuring The Jumbies, and followed by disco, 8:00pm till 2:00am, JCR. Tickets 75p. Everyone will be taught the dances, so beginners welcome.

**Sunday, May 10**

- Dramsoc Auditions for the Edinburgh Festival, 2:30, Upper Lounge.

**Monday, May 11**

- Golf Club Meeting, 12:30pm, Southside Lounge.

**Tuesday, May 12**

- STOIC Broadcast in colour with Terry Jones. You've seen Monty Python's Flying Circus, Holy Grail and Life of Brian? Now's your chance to see Terry Jones (alias Brian's mother and assorted other characters) on STOIC, as he talks to Dave Ghani about his career.
- Frankie Armstrong; Flowers and Frolics; Leon Rosselson; Jim Younger and Julie Carter in concert in aid of Anwar Ditta, 7:30pm, Lower Refec. £1.00 with Unioncard.
- Riding Club Meeting, 1:00pm, Elec Eng 110.
- Sailing Club AGM, 1:00pm, Mech Eng 664.
- END and CND present a talk by Joan Riddock of Greenham Common Anti-Missiles Campaign on *Cruise Missiles: A Challenge to Democracy*, 1:00pm, Physics LT. Free.

**Thursday, May 14**

- Yacht Club Meeting, 12:30pm, Southside TV Lounge. Important meeting. All must attend.
- STOIC Broadcast: *Newsbreak*, a news magazine programme for students, 12:45pm.
- Hang Gliding Club Meeting, 1:00pm, above Stan's Bar.
- IC Gliding Club Meeting, 5:30pm, Aero 254.
- ULU Gaysoc Meeting, 8:00pm, Room 2D, ULU, Malet Street.